



CONNECTICUT STATE  
COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES  
BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

**Testimony by Steven Weinberger**  
Board of Regents for Higher Education  
ConnSCU  
Before the Joint Committee on Judiciary  
March 23, 2012

Good morning, Senator Coleman, Representative Fox, and members of the Joint Committee on Judiciary. For the record, I am Steven Weinberger, Vice President for Human Resources at the Board of Regents for Higher Education. Since January 1, 2102, the Board of Regents has been responsible for the governance of Connecticut's four State Universities, twelve Community Colleges, and Charter Oak State College. I am here today to speak on behalf of all seventeen Board of Regents institutions and President Robert Kennedy.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 5548, *An Act Concerning Domestic Violence*. The Bill enjoys the full support of the Board of Regents because it recognizes that victims of domestic violence may in fact be enrolled at any of our seventeen institutions and, that in order to prevent incidents of domestic violence from occurring on campus, it is essential that these institutions be notified of any protective orders that have been issued by Connecticut courts. Specifically, I draw your attention to Sections 3 and 4 of the Raised Bill where this new language appears.

In order to derive the maximum value from this new provision, the Board of Regents suggests that the text of the Bill be revised so that notice of any protective order is transmitted directly to the President of the institution at which the victim is enrolled. By directly engaging the President, this revision will ensure that the intent of the House Bill is fully operationalized.

Colleges and Universities are large, complex organizations where duties and responsibilities are often shared and, as the chief administrative officer on campus, the President is best positioned to effectively follow-up with faculty and staff who have the need to know of the issuance of a protective order. In the judgment of the President, those with a need to know could conceivably include teachers, counselors, security, police, resource centers, residence hall advisors, and threat assessment team members. As revised, the Bill will compel the participation of campus Presidents in these critical matters. I would also note that this clarification is supported by the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges (CCIC). To this end, I have attached to my written testimony draft language for the consideration of your Committee.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak today and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

**Proposed Amendment to HB 5548, *An Act Concerning Domestic Violence***

Sec. 3. Subsection (d) of section 46b-38c of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

(d) In all cases of family violence, a written or oral report and recommendation of the local family violence intervention unit shall be available to a judge at the first court date appearance to be presented at any time during the court session on that date. A judge of the Superior Court may consider and impose the following conditions to protect the parties, including, but not limited to: (1) Issuance of a protective order pursuant to subsection (e) of this section; (2) prohibition against subjecting the victim to further violence; (3) referral to a family violence education program for batterers; and (4) immediate referral for more extensive case assessment. Such protective order shall be an order of the court, and the clerk of the court shall cause (A) a copy of such order to be sent to the victim, and (B) a copy of such order, or the information contained in such order, to be sent by facsimile or other means within forty-eight hours of its issuance to the law enforcement agency for the town in which the victim resides and, if the defendant resides in a town different from the town in which the victim resides, to the law enforcement agency for the town in which the defendant resides. If the victim is employed in a town different from the town in which the victim resides, the clerk of the court shall, upon the request of the victim, send, by facsimile or other means, a copy of such order, or the information contained in such order, to the law enforcement agency for the town in which the victim is employed [within] not later than forty-eight hours [of] after the issuance of such order. If the victim is enrolled in a public or private elementary or secondary school, including a regional vocational technical school, or an institution of higher education, as defined in section 10a-55, the clerk of the court shall, upon the request of the victim, send, by facsimile or other means, a copy of such order, or the information contained in such order, to such school or PRESIDENT OF THE institution of higher education, or the special police force established pursuant to section 10a-142, if any, at the institution of higher education at which the victim is enrolled.

Sec. 4. Section 54-1k of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

(a) Upon the arrest of a person for a violation of subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of section 53-21, section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70c, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a, or any attempt thereof, or section 53a-181c, as amended by this act, 53a-181d or 53a-181e, the court may issue a protective order pursuant to this section. Upon the arrest of a person for a violation of section 53a-182b or 53a-183, the court may issue a protective order pursuant to this section if it finds that such violation caused the victim to reasonably fear for his or her physical safety.

Such order shall be an order of the court, and the clerk of the court shall cause (1) a copy of such order or the information contained in such order to be sent to the victim, and (2) a copy of such order, or the information contained in such order, to be sent by facsimile or other means [within] not later than forty-eight hours [of] after its issuance to the law enforcement agency or agencies for the town in which the victim resides, the town in which the victim is employed and the town in which the defendant resides. If the victim is enrolled in a public or private elementary or secondary school, including a regional vocational technical school, or an institution of higher education, as defined in section 10a-55, the clerk of the court shall, upon the request of the victim, send, by facsimile or other means, a copy of such order, or the information contained in such order, to such school or PRESIDENT OF THE institution of higher education, or the special police force established pursuant to section 10a-142, if any, at the institution of higher education at which the victim is enrolled.